Fake freedom fighters Pension cases

1075. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of fake freedom fighters are getting freedom fighters' pension in Orissa as per the news item entitled, "Fake Freedom Fighters get Pension", which appeared in the Times of India of the 8th October, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the total number of fake freedom fighters' cases detected during the last three years till date, yearwise and State/Union Territory-wise; and

(d) what remedial steps Government have taken/propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) and (b) The news item mainly refers to a racket in grant of State pension to ineligible persons, which came to light when Central Government asked for a report about a contradictory statement in respect of sufferings undergone by a person whose case had been recommended for grant of Central Freedom Fighters Pension. The Central Pension to the freedom fighters is sanctioned on fulfilment of certain eligibility criteria and on the recommendations of the State Governments. On the basis of a general statement it cannot be verified if any freedom fighter in the State of Orissa has been sanctioned the Central pension on the basis of false claims.

(c) and (d) Government do receive some complaints against the recipients of the freedom fighters' pension from the Central Revenues. Such compalints are immediately got investigated and in the event of the same being found correct, pension is suspended/cancelled. No separate record is being maintained in respect of such cases.

Solution of Bodo Problem

1076. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM RATTAN RAM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present status of talks with the Bodo representatives; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Bodos have expressed dissatisfaction at the progress of the talks; if so, what action is being taken by Government for amicable solution of the Bodo problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) and (b) A Three-Member Expert Committee was constituted to determine the areas of Bodos and other plain tribes to the North of river Brahmaputra in Assam and made recommendations as to the autonomy—administrative, legislative and financial powers that could be given to them. This Committe submitted its report in March, 1992. The All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) and the Bodo Peoples Action Committee (BPAC) have, however, rejected the report and recommendations of the Committee. Thereafter a series of discussions have been held between the Government of Assam and the ABSU/BPAC as also between the Central Government and Bodo leadership to find solutions to their problems. Efforts are continuing to find amicable and acceptable solutions through further negotiations with the concerned parties.

***Citizenship right to Jammu and Kashmir* Residents**

1077. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of persons were migrated from West Pakistan and settled in the State of Jammu and Kashmir in 1947-48;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these persons and their descendants, though citizens of India, do not enjoy citizenship rights in the State and cannot even vote in the State Assembly, municipal and panchayat elections or secure any appointment under the State Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court, in its judgement of the February 20, 1987 noted the denial of justice to these persons and suggested amendments in the State laws and executive orders; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to take action to immediately end this state of injustice which has been continuing for the last 45 years if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These displaced persons have not been granted the permanent residency certificate of the State of J&K as envisaged in section 6 of the Constitution of J&K. They are, however, treated as citizens of India.

(c) The Supreme Court had suggested that to set right the anomalous position, it is upto the legislature of the State of J&K to take action to amend relevant State laws.

(d) Under the existing provisions they do not enjoy certain rights, which are otherwise available to the permanent residents of J&K. In the eyes of prevailing laws, they have not sustained any legal injury.

Resolving the Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid Disputes

1078. SHRI P. UPENDRA :

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS :

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a series of high level talks were held recently with the representatives of Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Babri Masjid Action Committee for resolving the dispute on Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid;

(b) what is the outcome of the discussions; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to stop the resumption of Kar Seva from December 6, 1992 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) to (c) Following the Statement of the Prime Minister in Parliament on 27 July, 1992, a series of consultations were held with a broad cross-section of parties. Suggestions were also invited from the public. The Prime Minister also wrote to the leaders of political parties requesting their cooperation in the process of negotiations. The first meeting between the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and All India Babri Masjid Action Committee was held on 3 October, 1992, the second meeting held on 16 October, 1992 and the third meeting was held on 8 November, 1992. However, in the meanwhile a unilateral announcement had been made for the resumption of Kar Sewa on 6 December, 1992. This announcement resulted in disruption of the direct talks between the two sides and, after the third meeting it was not possible to resume direct talks.

A meeting of the National Integration Council was held on 23 November, 1992 in which the Council, *inter alia* resolved, "after considering all aspects of the Babri Masjid-Ram Janma Bhoomi dispute and the report of the Government, the Council, extends its wholehearted support and cooperation in whatever step the Prime Minister considers essential in upholding the Constitution and the rule of law, and in implementing the Court's orders".

The Government of India has already requested the Government of Uttar Pradesh to take precautionary measures to ensure that no Kar Sewa is undertaken in violation of Court Orders.

The matter has been under the consideration of the Honourable Supreme Court. In an order passed on 28 November 1992